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## ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF CAPITALISM

Capitalism, While the Most Efficient System Economically Yet Developed, is at the Same Time Only a Species of Cannibalism

By Isador LaSalle

Human society is subjected to the same laws of evolution and devolution, development and decay, organization and disorganization, as the rest of the organic world. All institutions of human society are of a transitory character, they develop, grow and succeed each other according to certain laws. Cannibalism was succeeded by slavery, slavery by serfdom, serfdom by free individual production, individual production by socialized manufacture, and at last by machine production, the prevalent mode of production.

Social Democracy is the advance agent of a higher stage of social evolution, of economic freedom based on socialized production, of economic democracy, as the true and only safe foundation of political democracy. Social Democracy stands on the firm ground of monistic philosophy and regards society from a purely scientific point of view. It recognizes that there was a time when slavery was a progressive institution in comparison with cannibalism; that serfdom was the legitimate heir of slavery, when the last outlived its utility; that individual production in its primitive stage had to be succeeded by some more economic mode of socialized production, and that the modern machine production is a perfectly natural successor of the previous stage of economic social activity. There is not one clear-sighted, or, if you please, scientific Socialist, who would advocate the return to the individual production. All the enumerated types or stages of social life have two aspects—a purely economic and a broader, sociological one. Slavery, for instance, may be looked upon as an economic phenomenon on one and as a social institution on the other. The so-called classical school of economists—Adam Smith, Ricardo and others—refused to see in social life anything but its economic functions. Society was to them a somewhat loose conglomeration of abstract economic units, bent on creating national wealth. They recognized only one all-absorbing social force—greed. This metaphysical and Utopian view was rejected by the great founders of scientific Socialism—Roderich, Jagetrow and Marx: Recognizing the economic factor as the fundamental principle of human history, they, however, pointed out that, as Sabbath is for men and not men for Sabbath, wealth is only a means to human happiness, not a purpose in itself. According to the spirit of their teachings, the interests of the producers of wealth are paramount, while wealth itself, its production and preservation, are matters of secondary consideration.

Scientific Socialism rejected the idolatry of the fetish of the material wealth of nations, this modern Moloch on the golden altar of which the middle class or vulgar economists were and are ready to sacrifice the creators of this very wealth of nations. Scientific Socialism raised its voice for the human rights of the laboring class—the proletariat, by pointing out that society is not a mere conglomeration of abstract economic units, but a consociation of living human beings; that the laws governing human society are far more complex than the vulgar economists supposed or pretended to suppose. In other terms, modern Socialism insisted on the recognition of the broader, sociological aspect of different stages of social life. Capitalistic production from the purely economic point of view represents the highest stage ever attained, if we take in consideration the ratio between the amount of human energy expended and the results attained in respect to the quality and quantity of the commodities produced. The middle class economists may, from their point of view, well indulge in eulogies of this system of production. Socialists, however, do not allow themselves to be blinded by the mere economic aspect of modern production, but study and demonstrate the results of this mode of production on the producers themselves. They prove that capitalistic production, being the most perfect system economically, is at the same time the most perfect system of exploitation of men by men, that it is practically the most refined species of cannibalism in disguise. Socialized machine production—the essence of the capitalistic system—has to be regarded apart from the private ownership of the means of production, private ownership of the raw materials and tools of production (including land).

We can easily imagine socialized machine production in a state of society

where society at large will own the means of production, where the raw materials and tools of production (including land) will be public property. Social Democracy is not opposing the economic, but the social element of capitalism, because this social element, the private ownership of the means of production and distribution, turns capitalism into cannibalism in disguise, into a curse to humanity. Substitute public ownership of the means of production and distribution, and socialized machine production will turn into a blessing to humanity.

Talking about capitalism as the most perfect system of exploitation of men by men, we have, however, to state that capitalism, being the most typical mode of modern exploitation, is by no means the only mode of exploitation of men by men, and that this exploitation existed long before and will exist in one form or other long after capitalistic exploitation shall be a thing of the past. Capitalism, historically considered, is only a phase of the mercantile or profit system, of subservience of the human personality to the things serving as means of satisfying his needs. Aside from slavery, serfdom and wage bondage, exploitation is the essential element of any state of society where commodities are produced, not for use, but for profit. In an ideal state of society, like that advocated by the Social Democrats, there will be no place for profit. Society will own and operate all its means of production with the single object in view of satisfying in the most rational way the needs of its individual members.

Capitalism is one of the many phases of social life through which humanity had to pass on its triumphant advance to higher culture and civilization. There was a time when capitalism was progressive and useful, being instrumental in training the proletariat in the noble arts of socialized production. The day, however, is approaching fast when the proletariat will be ready to take possession of all the economic functions of society and operate them in the interests of society at large and discharging the capitalist class as an entirely useless and superfluous element.

### No Chance for Investments

A man whose father was one of the great operators of Wall Street, who controlled so many millions that he was able to wreck or make great business enterprises, said to the writer recently at a dinner that all investment was becoming doubtful; he did not know where to put a dollar. All classes of enterprises were so largely at the disposal of manipulation in the street, one day depressed far below par and the next raised far above, always with a like purpose, the one of serving individual interests, that investment in securities quoted on the street had become a lottery. It was in the power of four or five men, by manipulation of the stock or by starting a parallel enterprise, or by any other of the numerous methods so well known, to make or break literally anything or anybody. Here were the methods of the father being applied to the son's disadvantage. Greater whales had appeared in the seas which were capable of swallowing the sharks; the sharks were in jeopardy.

No well-informed man in the business world today, but believes that with two or three hundred millions at his disposal, a brain as able as some of those now in active careers may in turn attack and crush one leading business interest after another until even the millionaires may be swept from the field and practically all the wealth of the country concentrated in one great corporation.

It is lucky that the first man to perfect a science of business organization should also be a man whose impulses carry him in the direction of education. The same means that build great universities might just as deftly merge the republic into a monarchy. Any one who is at all on the inside of affairs in New York has hourly proof of the endless influence which money exercises over politicians, the press, educational institutions, and even the ministry itself. A hundred thousand apologists of no mean intellectual capacity are always at the beck and call of a hundred millions of dollars, together with a less army of viler minds who stand ready to tear down the best and noblest if by so doing they can earn a fee.—John Brisben Walker in the Cosmopolitan.

### Trusts in Europe

Prof. Jenks of Cornell University has been studying European business and reports that Germany has about 300 trusts called "cartels." Sugar, coal, iron, tinplate, oil, soap, brick, potassium, and many other trades are in the hands of this trust, he says. "Their objects," he goes on to say, "are to suppress competition, maintain prices, and, if necessary, restrict production by the partial or entire closing of works." In Austria the trust has raised the price of coal thirty per cent, and iron, oil, sugar, as well as coal, are among the trades dominated by trusts. Holland and Belgium are in the grip of monopolies. France is being subjugated by syndicates. Sweden and Norway have no trusts, but agreements among manufacturers amount practically to the same thing. Almost every trade in Switzerland "is controlled by a combination or agreement for the regulation of production and prices." "Finally," says Prof. Jenks, "in the United Kingdom, trusts flourish as nowhere else. One has but to go through the country and note the tall chimney stacks standing here and there idle and alone, from which the rest of the works have been moved or razed, to understand that the combination has reduced output or confined operations to a narrower limit; and these smokeless chimneys are mute witnesses to the fact that a once flourishing enterprise has been throttled."

### Human Nature and Government

Law and government, under the present system of skinning the workers and surfeiting the shirkers, make demands on the individual which are directly opposed to human nature. It is the human nature of the free Indian to satisfy hunger, and not until "civilization's" influences are thrown around him does he lack the means of doing it. As soon as the red man is "civilized" he is hungry. And the human nature of the white slave prompts him to satisfy hunger; but he can't do it—law and government stand in the way. If he attempts it, the law will east him into jail. He sees bread in abundance and in the midst of it all is expected to go hungry and keep his hands off. It matters not that he helped raise the wheat, mill the flour, or bake the bread—there is a gatling gun for every loaf and a "Thou shalt not steal" over all, for this bread is private property. The worker—the soil tiller, the miller and the baker—is disinherited and must eat the bread of a criminal or die.

But suppose he finds work? Ah! if he only finds work! What then? Then he can procure a portion of what he creates from a capitalist who is willing to employ him. He can have just enough to sustain life; but even that "boon" involves the transforming of all the energy he acquires from his pittance of a wage into more surplus which the capitalist appropriates. Meanwhile the preacher tells him to love his fellowmen, in the hope of a blessed future beyond the grave—right at the time, too, when his stomach is empty and his employer's is full, and when his torn and tattered coat prevents him attending "civine" service to see his well-groomed master "in the midst of them." I tell you that the more men think about these things, the beastliness and hollowness and hypocrisy of what you call "civilization," and the more they see the truth of what Carnegie says, that "the men who get rich are not the men who work," the more crimes are committed, and will be committed until so barbarous, inhuman and unchristlike a system is completely abolished.

### Importance of the Municipality

Our municipalities are the nearest things to practical Socialism that we possess. They represent the largest advance we have made in communal life. They stand for the community as against the individual. They subordinate the individual for the welfare of the whole more than any other organization in the country. In many cases they have absolute power over the very existence of a community, with their control over water, markets, lighting, health, roads, and tramways. The power they wield in this present time is as nothing to the power they will have in years to come.—The Clarion.

Peter Curran, delegate from England to the convention of the American Federation of Labor, is quoted as saying: "Strikes, in my opinion, after twenty years' experience, can never solve the social problem. I am not," adds Mr. Curran, "in favor of any laws which would take away the right of the worker to strike, but I am not an advocate of strikes. There is only one solution, and that is in common ownership, for as long as we allow the land and the machinery of the country to be held as private monopolies by the few, so long will we have industrial disputes and upheavals."

## WORK AND WAGES IN CHICAGO SWEATSHOPS

Two-thirds of a Cent for an Hour's Hard Work—Average Wages \$77 a Year

Miss Nellie Mason Auten, a graduate student of the department of sociology at the University of Chicago, has just completed, under the auspices of that institution, the most thorough investigation ever made of sweatshops in Chicago. In her report she summarizes the prices paid by contractors and wholesale dealers and shows that the wages of the victims of the vicious system are steadily falling. From the report we gather the following facts:

Women were found working ten hours a day, six days in the week, making 40 cents per week (a rate of two-thirds of a cent an hour!) or \$21 a year.

Many workmen and women employed at making garments, with average work of thirty-one weeks out of the fifty-two, are paid five cents an hour.

One woman, a pants finisher, worked

eleven hours per day and made 30 cents a week, while many were earning less than a dollar a week.

Many were earning less than \$100 a year, and in a large number of cases where the whole family is employed, the entire income was from \$100 to \$200 a year.

A contractor gets 20 cents for a child's coat, and out of that he must pay for the making and get his profit!

For a man's coat he gets 80 cents, where five years ago he received \$1.25, and ten years ago \$1.50.

One contractor receives eight cents a pair for knee pants, and that is a cent less than last year.

In the annexed table Miss Auten gives a valuable and instructive record of the general averages earned by individuals and families:

Industry.	Average individual weekly wages.	Average number of weeks employed.	Average yearly earnings.	Average family earnings.	Average earnings per member per week.	Average family earnings per week.
Dressmakers	\$ 36	42	\$ 151.20	\$218.46	\$ .71	\$4.11
Pants finishers	1.31	27.58	36.10	220.05	.82	5.01
Housewives and pants finishers	1.58	30.21	47.49	245.92	.91	4.73
Seamstresses	2.03	32.78	66.10	181.00	1.23	2.54
Pants makers	2.15	29.77	75.01	220.05	1.45	4.60
Miscellaneous	2.77	29	81.50	405.81	1.53	7.80
Tailors	6.22	31.96	211.92	525.25	4.08	10.06
General averages	\$2.45	31.18	\$ 76.74	\$297.79	\$1.48	\$5.72

Seldom did she find proper sanitary accommodations, and often, in the coldest weather, she found the rooms stiflingly close but entirely unheated. Some of the shops are in basements, where the evils are even more exaggerated because of the bad air and worse darkness.

The manufacturer feels it no affair of his how the work is done. The contractor is pressed to keep his contracts and feels no interest in the conditions under which his employees work. The landlord is content to get the most rent he can without asking questions. The consumer is always ready for bargains. And so it is that the man, uneducated, perhaps unskilled, has to say: "Yes, I must keep on working, even though my back is breaking and my eyes will scarcely stay open, for wife and the little ones must have bread, and I must work now if it kills, for soon there will be no work to do." And there are 35-

853 such workers in the garment trades

After suggesting several palliatives, Miss Auten says: "Closely related with those who expect much from organization of the workers are those who feel that the whole existing order of society is unjust, and that the remedy is to be found in Socialism, a state of society in which each man shall have just what he produces, no more and no less. It is undoubtedly true that at present there is a class who do little or nothing to add to the sum total of the world's goods, and yet who have most. It is also true that many of those who work hardest have least. Something is wrong if these conditions can exist, and whether or not the solution lies in the inauguration of the Socialistic state it is a serious question whether, if it is true that each person has a 'right to be himself such as he is,' he has not also the right to have undiminished that which he produces."

## THE ADVANTAGES OF PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

Advocated on the Ground that a Large and Powerful Class, the Intelligent and Well-to-Do, will Find Their "Interests" in Good Government

Richard T. Ely in The Cosmopolitan

It may be said in favor of public ownership and public management, that by this means the regulation required by the general public arises out of the nature of public property. When private persons manage private property, the natural thing for them to do is to manage it in the interests of private individuals. When public property is managed by public authorities, the natural thing is to manage it in the interests of the general public, because the ownership is, by the very hypothesis, vested in the general public. The easy and natural thing to do is to manage property in the interest of its owner. It is, as a rule, right and proper to manage private property in the interest of private persons, and not infrequently it is gross abuse of a trust to manage it otherwise. It is, on the other hand, a perversion of public property to manage it in the interests of private persons. As in the case of private ownership of natural monopolies, it requires a pressure diverting property from that management springing out of the nature of property, to secure the public ends, so it is only through an open and acknowledged abuse of a public trust that public property can be otherwise managed than to promote the general welfare.

It is a decided advantage of public ownership coupled with public management, that it makes clear the issues before us with respect to natural monopolies. Exactly what the situation is, may readily be discovered. The source of evils which exist can be ascertained, and steps taken to introduce appropriate remedies. Naturally there may be resistance, and frequently there is resistance, on the part of private interests to a wise management of public property and public businesses. This resistance has various sources. Partisan politics will occur to every one as one

source. The low and degraded view of public office as a reward of party service and not as a public trust, is one of the great evils against which the American people have been contending for a generation. On the whole this contest has been successful, although there still remains much to be done to bring about popular enlightenment concerning the true nature of public office and to cultivate a finer sense of right and wrong with respect to it. A more dangerous, because frequently a more powerful and always a more insidious, source of resistance to right management of public undertakings, is found in the selfish interests of private corporations and powerful private combinations of one sort and another. It was the political machine of Philadelphia, acting in harmony with a private corporation, which turned over the public gas works to a private corporation. At the time this article is being written, this same political machine is opposing the improvement of the public water works, and is favoring a plan to lease them to a private corporation. The people of Philadelphia have already approved a loan the design of which is to improve the public water works, but the political machine, in the service of private interests, resists needed improvements. There is strong reason to suspect that private parties in their own private interests sometimes do what they can to make public enterprises a failure, and there is also a very widespread effort to represent public activities of every kind as much worse than they really are, coupled with a reluctance to acknowledge merit on the part of those engaged in the public service. In consequence of this, it becomes necessary to go behind the politician, often a mere tool, to find the real power behind him, and this real power may belong to the very respectable ele-

(Continued on Third Page)



# Social Democratic Herald

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**Social Democratic Party Vote**  
**1900 (PRESIDENTIAL) 97,024**  
**1900 (S. L. P.) 34,191**  
**TOTAL 131,215**

Socialism! Yes, I understand, an organization to extract the fangs and claws of capitalism.

The union label, whatever else may be said about it, will never solve a labor problem, while working men vote the wage slave ticket of capitalism.

Australia is getting fearfully close to a republican form of government, and the first thing King Edward knows one of the jewels will drop out of his crown.

Among other luxuries the South African war has produced, to take the place of the Boers, is a fine variety of bubonic plague, now growing luxuriantly at Cape Town.

In 1899 the United States produced 2,325,000,000 gallons of petroleum, or perhaps more properly, the Almighty and John D. Rockefeller produced the stuff.

The United Garment Makers have decided against high initiation fees. Hereafter \$5.00 will be the limit, the idea being that "a penny saved is a penny earned."

Mark Hanna tells McKinley that his big guns in the Philippine islands are his "deep-throated barkers," and Mac playfully responds, "Yes, they are my dogs of war."

A mother seeing her little children going barefooted is scarcely expected to be happy when she sees other children wearing shoes. However, lustily the cry of prosperity is heard.

The adulteration of various descriptions of food in the United States is an instance of evolution in commercial rascality, which should send the evolutionists to the penitentiary.

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The fifty-sixth congress, republican, which expired March 4, 1901, appropriated \$1,440,062,495, of which \$349,772,389 was for war purposes—every dollar of which labor must pay.

A Russian laborer receives 15 cents a day. If he has a horse and cart he gets 45 cents a day. In that case it is an even division, the man, the horse and the cart, each receives 15 cents a day.

The steady encroachment upon the rights of the negro in the south, through disfranchisement, only makes more evident the fact that there can be no political liberty without industrial freedom.

John Smith and his wife Lucy, both ardent workers in the union labor cause, named their first boy "Union Label Smith." If not too late, perhaps Social Democrat Smith would be an improvement.

It is stated that, first and last, the great exposition at St. Louis in 1903, in honor of the purchase of the Louisiana territory by Thomas Jefferson in 1803, will require the expenditure of \$100,000,000.

Boys are often required to do men's work, but always for a boy's wages, while men are required to accept a boy's wages for doing a man's work. In this the adroitness of capitalism, in robbing both men and boys, is seen.

Some one affirms that money, now more than ever before, "measures achievement." "Except," the writer should have said, "in a certain description of mills and corporations," where wind and water measure achievement.

King Edward VII. of England and the Emperor of India was recently hissed and looted at a railroad station in Belgium, an indication that his majesty and kings generally don't average much above other mortals—even in Europe.

Low wages mean low life, low living, low morals, low intelligence, low aims, low ambition and universal degeneracy, conditions which capitalism produces always, inevitably and everywhere. Socialism is working to change the program.

It was thought that the "Great Powers," all being Christian (?), would not, when they got possession of Pekin, loot the city like savages; yet all have been engaged in the barbarism business except Japan, but Japan is not a great Christian power.

One of the curiosities of the times is a biographical sketch of Mark Hanna, which contains all the world cares to know about him. The book is one-quarter the size of a postage stamp. The binding required the skins of sixteen thousand mosquitos and has for a frontispiece the picture of a hog.

During the year 1900 the United States produced \$39,322,281 worth of gold and \$36,362,431 worth of silver, a total of \$116,684,712, or about \$1.50 per capita, for every man, woman and child in the country. This vast amount of the precious metals are produced by labor, but labor did not get its equitable share of the wealth.

The latest figures show that there are 195,000 miles of railroads in the United States, capitalized on an average of \$60,000 a mile, amounting to \$11,500,000,000, the actual cost being about \$20,000 a mile, or \$3,900,000,000, giving a net profit in water and wind of \$7,600,000,000. At their true value, government ownership might be consummated without special embarrassment.

A. Mr. Wm. A. Clark a rich man, writes: "I was put in the world as a factor to manage affairs. I employ hundreds of men, women and children. I am happy." How about the men, women and children? What were they put in the world for? The inference from Mr. Clark's utterances is to work for him, take such wages as he chooses to pay, and make him rich and happy. That is millionaire logic.

Miss Helen M. Gould, who inherited a large slice of her father's estate, appears in print as saying: "We do not sufficiently realize the good that is done by money used in the different industries in giving employment to great numbers of people." Miss Gould probably has an income of a million a year, but if she has done anything with her money to mitigate the way of sweat-shop workers, whom money employs in the city of New York, the fact has not been made public.

London, Eng., has an almanac maker known as "Old Moore." He is an astrologer, and guesses about coming events in a way that interests a great many people besides fools. For 1901 "Old Moore" predicts famines, wars, revolts, insurrections, revolutions and many other unpleasant things attributable to the reign of capitalism in the earth. "Old Moore," if he can see coming events, ought to tell how many centuries will elapse before the wage slaves of the United States will have sense enough to vote for their emancipation.

## Man and the Machine

The term, "labor-saving machine," has been from the first a misnomer, "labor-displacing machine" more exactly expresses the mission of machinery. The term "labor" always means human effort in the exercise of muscular strength. There is just so much labor to be performed. If it is done by machinery, labor is not "saved," laborers are simply displaced, and become idle. A certain number of laborers are required to superintend the machines. This done, those who are displaced are necessarily idle, unless they can find employment in lines of work not invaded by the machine. This is often impossible, and enforced idleness is the result.

The machine has come to stay and will multiply in response to every demand. Laborers are also here to stay and they multiply regardless of demand. There is not only an immense domestic production of laborers, but they come by the thousands from every quarter of the earth. If we had only our home markets to supply they would be glutted continually, as is often the case for periods more or less extended, when the ranks of the idle are swelled to dangerous proportions. The industrial activity which is now the boast is in a large measure attributable to the export demand for our wares. But foreign markets are beyond our control and our export business may collapse at any time, as in the case of Russia, when a decree, soon to take effect, will reduce exports fully \$30,000,000 a year, which emphasizes the fact that foreign markets are uncertain. Independent, however, of such contingencies, industrial conditions are full of alarm. The steadily increasing number of the unemployed bodes evil—and that continually.

Only Socialists seem to comprehend the situation or exhibit any solicitude as to future conditions. Their warnings go unheeded. Capitalism is the supreme power. It dominates in all matters, civil and military, secular and religious. It counts its wage slaves by millions and treats with proud disdain the army of the idle, the victims of its sway. Nevertheless, Socialism will continue the battle for better conditions, and there are many cheering signs that a better day is coming.

## Why is Bryan Silent

A few months ago Mr. William J. Bryan went around the country very solicitous for the condition of the Filipinos and Cubans. Their condition was such as to inspire heart burns, woe and writhing in his physical and mental make-up. We have sometimes suspected that his illusive sentiments, his pure love for those foreign races, was prompted by an equal and greater love and inclination for the position in Washington which pays \$50,000 a year salary and gives a man the distinction of appointing third-class postmasters and representatives abroad.

Our former suspicions we must now regard as confirmed; unless this great magnetic leader of the common people uses his voice to raise the infants' conditions in the solid, democratic south. In Georgia children are employed under twelve years of age. They work those children from sixteen to eighteen hours for 50 and 60 cents per week. The distinguished and intellectual class of the United States are not very interested, however, in the sufferings of babes, but the American Federation for several months worked for a bill introduced in the legislature of the latter state to prohibit the employment of children under twelve years old for more than eleven hours and ten minutes per day. This bill was defeated. The real good democrats down there who believe in saving the country, in their conduct do as much to create despotism and degeneracy by hitching infants to machines, as those they rail against.

We have pointed out before that similar conditions exist in Charlotte, S. C., and we are further informed now, particularly in South Carolina, that innocent men are driven into stockades, their families and children with them, and continue as slaves to the plantation proprietors.

The reader, of course, is familiar with the stories of the poor "breaker boys" in Pennsylvania, who, in the springtime of childhood, labor and toil where neither sunlight, summer breezes nor flowers are known. This state has Matt Quay for its senator. It is a republican state, which believes in prosperity. If it cannot be seen through these twin horrors that capitalism is the same and that our contest should be against the system, nothing will save us from the hands of the enraged gods.

## A Fortune in Fifteen Years

Mr. Russel A. Gardner, a millionaire, expresses the opinion that "any young man, with energy and application, can accumulate enough wealth by the time he is thirty-five years of age, to support him in ease for the remainder of his life." Such is the character of the stuff some millionaires write for symposiums relating to "the stewardship of wealth." It is designed to mislead and vitiate public opinion, and to extort the verdict that men at thirty-five years of age who have not accumulated enough wealth to support them in ease the remainder of their lives have been deficient in energy and application, and if poor at thirty-five, have only themselves to blame for the lack of success. It is a bold, bad and foolish assertion. There are multiplied thousands of workmen who have energy and application—who work incessantly, when work is to be obtained—who have not and could not, under the most favorable conditions, secure the wealth of which Mr. Gardner speaks. As an illustration, take a mechanic at twenty years of age, working every day except Sundays for fifteen years at \$2.00 a day, in which case his wages would amount to \$9,390. Assume that during these fifteen years the cost of board and clothing was \$200 a year, or \$3,000. He would have, at thirty-five years of age, \$6,390, which at 6 per cent interest would yield him \$383.40 a year.

To a practical, common-sense man the problem, as here worked out, becomes ridiculous. In the first place, men do not and cannot work 313 days consecutively, during fifteen years. Taking into consideration lost time, holidays, sickness, the usual stoppage of work for repairs, etc., and men of "energy and application," if they held their positions continuously, would not work, on an average, more than 250 days in a year. As a result, their total wages would not at the expiration of fifteen years amount to more than \$7,500. Deducting \$3,000 for board and clothing, and the workingman would find himself the possessor of a fortune of \$4,500, which, at 6 per cent interest, would yield him \$270 a year, upon which to live the remainder of his days.

But suppose the young mechanic should conclude to marry and rear a family, as a distinguished divine recommends all young men to do. What be-

comes of the fortune about which Mr. Gardner writes?

This talk about securing fortunes by young men of "energy and application" does not include workmen. Mr. Gardner says he "accumulated his fortune in fourteen years." Not by work and wages. He employed men to work for him—a large number of them—and thus he rapidly grew rich. It is the old, old story of capitalistic robbery, and the more it is aired the more pronounced becomes the conviction that the only remedy for the beggar curse is found in the principles advocated by Socialism.

## The Stewardship of Wealth

People are either amused, instructed or disgusted as they read the opinions of the rich, expressed in symposiums, or otherwise, relating to the disposition of their wealth.

As labor, and only labor, creates wealth, a far more interesting question to the public at large, and particularly to the creators of wealth, would be, how are great fortunes obtained now-a-days in the United States?

A symposium along such a line of statement, dealing with the subject truthfully, would be of startling interest to the country, and would be a contribution to the sum total of the world's knowledge of human depravity under the auspices of Christian civilization, which would unravel all the entanglements in which the woeful conditions of humanity are now involved.

Occasionally attempts are made to elucidate the intricate question, and some headway has been made; but for all practical purposes it is not known that anything of advantage has been secured to society. On the contrary, the more clearly the facts have been stated, the more defiant, aggressive and insolent have been the methods adopted for the consolidation of wealth in the hands of the few, and the wider and more distressing has become the domain of poverty, until there is a prevailing opinion in the minds of a large majority of the people that all great fortunes are chargeable with a predominating element of fraud, advancing from the beginning to downright piracy of enormous atrocity, around which the government has thrown, in various ways, its protection.

Under such conditions it is supreme folly to suppose the rich will make statements concerning the origin of their wealth or their methods for its accumulation; and, moreover, they will brook no investigation concerning such matters.

As a result, those who investigate honestly find the country full of unrest. The great mass of the people, especially working people, amidst all the uproar about prosperity and improved conditions, realize that they are the victims of numerous schemes concocted and perfected for the purpose of robbing and debasing them, which they are ceaselessly trying to overcome by organization and strikes, totally oblivious of the fact that capitalism, having absolute control of all the means of production—mills, mines, machinery, tools and money—are as much delighted with their struggles as a spider when it sees a fly struggling to extricate itself from the meshes of the net constructed for its capture.

True it is, that the blue-tailed flies might, by a united effort, destroy the net; but instead of this, on election day, the flies, by a large majority, vote the spider ticket and thus perpetuate the power of their enemies.

Nevertheless, the eternal agitation proceeds, and men who were blind are made to see, lame men are made to walk, and lepers are cleansed, an era of miracles is dawning, ignorance is giving place to intelligence, and Socialism is gaining a larger measure of indorsement. Men of culture and conscience are joining the ranks of Socialism. Says one: "The origin and credentials of wealth must be those of honor and honesty, not those of oppression, corruption, cruelty and theft." The "origin of wealth" is found in labor, and the beaded sweat upon the brow of labor is its divine credentials. To make it the instrument of oppression, corruption and cruelty is a crime which Socialism is pledged to destroy. Another symposium writer says: "The god of wealth seems to exhibit himself in ways never before known in the world." Socialism proposes, with iconoclastic strength, to tumble down the god from its pedestal and set up in its stead the god of truth, justice, mercy and righteousness, and the work is going bravely on. Its faith is "the substance of things hoped for," and its hopes, tongued and voiced, are never more inspiring than when the battle for the right is fiercest.

The anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania produced in 1899, 47,665,201 tons of coal, and in 1900, 45,846,924 tons; total in two years, 92,512,125 tons, a decrease in production in 1900 as compared with 1899 of 1,808,277 tons, for which the great strike of 1900 is said to be responsible. There is not, in all probability, a locality on the face of the earth where the despotic sway of capitalism is more pronounced than in the anthracite coal region of the old "Keystone state." The soil is congenial and the upas plant flourishes in perennial infamy amidst want, degradation, ignorance and squalor.

## Anglo-Saxon Civilization

We refer boastfully to our civilization. We call it "Anglo-Saxon civilization," because in early times a people known as Saxons from Germany settled in England. With equal propriety it could be called Anglo-Dane, Anglo-Roman, Anglo-Norman, because Danes, Romans and Normans, as well as Saxons, settled in England. It is also called "Christian civilization" to distinguish it from Mohammedan and other barbarian civilizations. The name of the civilization, if not the civilization itself, we inherit from England. But, in fact, the civilization of the United States is not Anglo-Saxon. It is rather a conglomerated, heterogeneous civilization—English, Irish, German, Italian, Spanish, Swede, Dane, Russian and French civilization, to say nothing of the African, Afro-English or Afro-American. As a result, the Anglo-Saxon, in the grand shuffle, has lost much of whatever significance was once attached to it, and is a misnomer when applied to civilization as it exists in the United States.

Manifestly, the time has come when Americans should treat the term "Anglo-Saxon," as applied to our civilization, as obsolete, and adopt in its stead "American." Having ceased to be a "hermit nation," and expanded to a "world power," we are entitled to every possible distinction as a nation, having an American civilization and an American language. We have American "progress and poverty." American trusts, syndicates, monopolies and other snares, traps and dead-falls constructed for robbery. A system of wage slavery as perfect, as cunning and duplicity ever devised. We have American politics, reeking with pollution, until the term "rotten" scarcely expresses conditions one-half or more of the population holding its nose, while the remainder probes the mass of foul abominations for jobs. Besides, we have American judiciary, gotten up on the chuck-a-luck, thimble-rigging idea of justice; prevailing to such an extent that initial or the court of a justice of the peace to the climax of a supreme court decision, only the party employing the great attorneys of Bribe & Boodle have any show for winning a case.

Socialists are students of civilization. They believe it can be indefinitely improved. In this regard they are optimistic. Here in the United States they note the beginning of what, for convenience we will call "Anglo-Saxon civilization," civilization which the colonists brought over with them from England, and which took possession of Massachusetts, and from that locality extended its dominion by what its promoters called "divine right" to Christianize the continent.

What was its beginning in Massachusetts? The answer is the church. Only those who belonged to the church could vote. In those far-away days rum played a conspicuous part in establishing Anglo-Saxon civilization in America. The clergy drank rum, the layman drank rum, everybody drank rum. It was in the pulpit, in the pew and in the home. It had its place in religion, politics and business. Rum helped to lay the foundation of Anglo-Saxon civilization in America. Under the influence of rum, what more natural than that these founders of Anglo-Saxon civilization should steal young Indians and sell them into slavery? What more natural than that, under the influence of rum, the church should regard the hanging of witches, whipping Quakers and exiling Baptists as pleasing in the sight of God? What more in consonance with the spirit of rum and Anglo-Saxon civilization than to equip ships with fetters and whips, rum and trinkets, and send them to Africa to steal "niggers" for the money there was in the business? When a quart of rum, worth say, 10 cents, judiciously handled, might catch a "nigger" worth \$500. The profits were immense, and Anglo-Saxon civilization has always had an eye to the profits.

Socialists observe that Anglo-Saxon civilization has undergone some improvements or modifications, or more properly, perhaps, changes. There is still rum and ruin, but there is also rebellion. Everybody is not in favor of things as they exist. At this juncture Socialism enters the arena. It finds conditions deplorable, but it also finds a large and growing element determined to introduce a new and a better civilization. It cares nothing for a name, whether it be "Anglo-Saxon" or "Christian," as applied to civilization. It simply demands a civilization that is no respecter of persons. To Socialists the plebeian is equal to the prince. It cares nothing for titles. It values worth, intelligence, will, courage, all that goes to exert force in changing conditions for the good of humanity. It does not believe there is only one tide that "leads on to future," but that every day has its tide. It does not believe there is but one "divinity" that "shapes ends" and decides destinies, but rather that every man is his own divinity and may shape his own destiny. Socialism takes no stock in "faith." Its shibboleth is "fight," and it is mustering a mighty force to achieve victories.

In Germany, during January, Socialists were sentenced to four years and eight weeks' imprisonment and \$98.58 fines. This is rather below the average.



## OUR LONDON LETTER

## LABOR AND POLITICS IN ENGLAND

By John Penny, Gen. Secy. I. L. P.

## The London County Council Election

The London County Council, although technically a local authority, has almost a national importance. It administers an area in which about 5,000,000 of people are resident and its doings are followed with greatest interest in every part of the world. Hence the elections of Saturday last, March 2, commanded far more attention than usually attaches to municipal contests.

From the creation of the council in 1889 up to the present year, party politics have been eschewed. Liberalism and conservatism possibly right enough for national questions, but it was agreed all round that in the purely domestic matters to be dealt with by the council, which had nothing to do with foreign policy or colonial expansion, it was better not to introduce the distracting influence of national politics. Consequently the fights for municipal power have always been entirely distinct from the fights for parliamentary power, and two new parties were formed, known respectively as progressives and moderates, with the result that many prominent conservatives were identified with the progressive party, while some liberals, at any rate, were associated with the moderates. The clearness of separation from the old party lines is amply shown by the fact that, whereas the progressives have had a majority in each county council from 1889 to date (save one, where the parties were equal), in parliamentary matters London has all along been overwhelmingly conservative, and, in fact, the conservative members in the house at the present time outnumber the liberals by about 8 to 1.

This year, however, the moderate party made what is probably considered an astute move in dropping the name moderate and adopting that of conservative. The intention was to draw all the conservative voters into the fold and get the vote taken on party lines. Doubtless, to their astonishment, they find that the scheme did not work, and no one has denounced it more heartily than the conservative voter, because he did not wish to drag South Africa and China into questions of trams, water supply,

housing and the like. The moderates must now be sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

Every one knows that the progressives won all along the line, and that out of the 118 members constituting the council no less than 86 belong to that party. Such a clean sweep has seldom been seen in English public life.

It only remains now to deal briefly with the meaning of the progressive victory, and in doing so I am open to the charge of giving an ex parte view of the matter. That, however, cannot be helped.

It is evident that Liberalism is dead in London. This is shown by the enormous conservative majority at the parliamentary election in October, and by the fact that in many constituencies there has ceased to be any liberal organization, even in name. Progressivism, however, is very much alive. Hence it is reasonable to suppose that Progressivism must differ very materially from liberalism.

And that is a fact. Progressivism in London stands for the immediate application of collectivist principles. The candidates naturally ran upon what they considered to be the most popular programs, and these programs were one and all collectivist—municipal water, municipal gas, municipal trams, municipal houses, and so on. The progressives felt that the people demanded these things, and even the moderates also worked them into their programs and said: "Elect us instead of the progressives, because we are able and willing to give you far more municipalization than they are." As the moderates, however, have consistently opposed these proposals on the council, the electors were wise enough to see that it would be advisable to let them demonstrate their friendship in some tangible way before entrusting them with power.

Liberalism, then, is dead. The conservative party is looked to for a strong foreign and imperial policy, and is in power on that account, but in domestic matters collectivism is the popular demand, and the exponents of collectivism have got control of the municipal machinery. Such is the political situation in London today.

## ADVANTAGES OF PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

(Continued from First Page)

There must inevitably be a struggle to establish the policy of public ownership of natural monopolies, but when this policy is once thoroughly established, when it comes to be so thoroughly approved and so firmly rooted in our life that an effort to upset it is manifestly hopeless, it must enlist in the cause of good government the intelligent and well-to-do element in the community. There will then be established a harmony of interests which is now so sadly wanting.

It is often said, it is said every day by press and pulpit, that the better class of the community is apathetic. But why is this the case? What is the deeper, underlying cause? When the better class of the community feels itself and its interests seriously threatened, it is by no means apathetic. Take the better class of New York and Boston in its attitude upon the question of silver monometallism. This better class has a very clear idea concerning its own interests with respect to the free and unlimited coinage of silver, and will any one claim that with respect to this question it is apathetic? But what is the interest of this better class with respect to excellence in municipal government? Would not their franchises suffer, would not the terms under which they are able to serve the public with their property, be changed for the worse for them, by municipal reform? Probably in every great city in which the policy of private ownership of municipal monopolies obtains, the number of persons financially interested in this private ownership exceeds by far the number of officeholders. Can the apathy and indifference they show be a source of surprise? Must it not, on the other hand, be a source of surprise that in many of our cities there is so much effort as we actually see on the part of the well-to-do to establish good municipal government, even when this involves a considerable amount of self-sacrifice?

We indulge in no attacks on individuals or classes. We are attempting to show what course of action men's interests lead them to take, and we ask this question: Can we base a public policy upon the hypothesis that a large and powerful class in the community will act in a manner contrary to its own interests?

In all the cities of the world where there is a thoroughly established policy of public ownership and management, the well-to-do find that their interests are bound up with those of good government. It is a great thing to so clarify the situation that we can find out exactly what are the obstacles in the way of improvement.

Closely connected with what has gone before, it must be observed that, while malignant forces tending to degradation will still exist under public ownership, some of the more powerful forces of corruption will disappear. The purity of public life will then simply depend upon the general level of intelligence and morality, and if that is as high in New York as in Berlin, there is no reason why in the course of time New York should not, equally with Berlin, secure a model government.

[Note.—It is unnecessary to point out to the Socialist that the program of Social Democrats goes far beyond anything contemplated by Prof. Ely in the above quotation, from which his platitudinal references to "natural" and "artificial" monopolies has been purposely eliminated. Social Democracy seeks to bind the interests, not of a class, the well-to-do, but of the entire community. It does not advocate public ownership merely to insure good government to protect the interests (that is to say, the property) of a class, but to insure freedom and justice to every member of the community.—Ed.]

## SOCIAL DEMOCRACY'S INTERROGATIONS

How would it do to turn the X-ray camera on the brain of the average workingman who votes himself into slavery?

Are we likely to get less class legislation so long as we have landlords, land-lords, rail-lords and machine-lords for legislators?

Is there any reason why a nation that furnishes an education for the brain should not furnish employment for the hands?

Do you know of any way by which a man can get possession of houses, food and clothing, except by working, begging or stealing?

Can you tell why a nation that provides for teaching children to spell should not interfere with conditions that cause children to starve?

In your soberest moments do you really think that that is the best kind of government which gives bonds to the rich and bullets to the poor?

Don't you think it would be wholly their own fault if monopolists and corporations, having seized upon government and the power, did not make laws for their own benefit?

Did you ever think that we have a government that never does anything for those who are skilled in useful and practical arts, but does all it can for those skilled in the arts of legal murder?

## The Woes of Wealth

They tell us that Wealth is a curse—  
Let us pity the rich!—  
Weep for the man with the bulging purse,  
Ye slaves in the ditch!  
Think of the pain and the mad despair  
Within the walls of the palace where  
Fair women are flitting, with shoulders bare—  
Crawl to the gate  
And gaze at the marble walls that rise  
To hide the scene from your pitying eyes—  
Hark! hear ye not their tremulous sighs?—  
Ah! spiteful Fate!

They tell us the rich have woes—  
Let us pity their plight!—  
Weep for the beautiful woman who glows  
In jewels bright:  
Mourn for the crowd at the table where  
The wine is famous and old and rare—  
Think of the griefs that are centered there—  
Think of the dread!  
Think of the weight that on each heart rests,  
Think of the sorrows beneath the jests—  
Think of the sighs in those gentle breasts—  
The hopes that are dead!

They tell us the rich must die—  
Pity their case!—  
The mold of the grave must, some day, lie

On the rich man's face!  
Think of your happier state, O slave,  
With so little to lose when you sink in the grave,

Giving to God nothing more than he gave—  
Ah, bitterly weep  
For the hapless who dance in the palace where

The jewels are rare and the shoulders bare—  
Think of all they are doomed to abandon there  
When they fall asleep!

—S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Times-Herald.

## Electric Typewriters

A new typewriting machine is being introduced in which electro-magnetic power is utilized. In appearance and general construction the machine resembles the ordinary typewriter, and the addition of the electrical adjustments is said not to reduce its simplicity of action. A motor frame, an electro-magnet and a rheostat are placed below the typebasket. When a key is depressed a pendant is thrown over the motor frame and the circuit is closed. The magnet pulls up the motor frame, and shoves up the pendant, which, actuating a lever, pulls down a wire, throwing the type bar upward and making the imprint. The type bar is free to return independently of the key. For ordinary work, a weak current is used, but for taking carbon copies the current has to be stronger, as the type bar must deliver a more forcible blow. One advantage of the electrical typewriter is that it gives twenty perfectly good carbon copies at one time. Other advantages are that it needs only a very light touch, a pressure of four ounces, the regulation piano touch, being quite sufficient to operate the keys. A running or overlapping touch is possible, and several keys can be depressed in succession without releasing the preceding key, the clearness of the type and alignment being preserved. The machines are substantially built, and the moving parts are made heavier, being impelled by an external force of greater power than the light touch of the operator's fingers.

## Altgeld's Book

"Oratory: Its Requirements and Its Rewards," by Jno. P. Altgeld. Vellum de Lux binding, 50 cents. Chas. H. Kerr & Co., 56 Fifth Avenue, Chicago. This book offers many good suggestions to those desirous of becoming public speakers. Gestures, articulation, stimulants, preparation, rest, etc., are treated. On hospitality he says: "A speaker cannot accept; if he does his speeches at once drop to a lower level. He can make himself more free and at home in a hotel than at the house of a friend." He hints at too frequent speaking, making a speaker too common.

Our movement would die of atrophy if we followed that suggestion. In my judgment, the greatest quality standing alone is moral courage. For instance, if a logical, broad-minded man, free from petty personal hatreds, advocates municipal ownership in 1898 and exclaims "this generation must have its rights," how can you reconcile his conduct two years later, in the discovery of a "plot" and the encouragement of the candidacy of a republican who stands for twenty years' extension of franchises sitting in 1901, like a bump on a log, may come from inertia or lack of precision, but usually among intellectuals, from moral cowardice. "He must stand resolutely with his face toward the sun; and when the cry of oppressed humanity calls for sacrifice, he must promptly say, 'Here, Lord, am I!'"

Reviewer.

Some Socialist who had been imprisoned at Cadiz have been pardoned because of the marriage of the King's sister.

## LOCAL BRANCHES

## CALIFORNIA

Liberty Branch, San Francisco, holds public meetings every Sunday and Wednesday evenings, commencing at 8. Admission free.  
Business meetings (for members) every Thursday evening.  
Membership, Social Democratic Herald free to each member, 25 cents per month.  
Apply to the secretary, John C. Wesley, 117 Turk street.

Branch No. 3, Los Angeles, meets every Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at Woodmen's Hall, 1235 Spring street.  
Branch No. 4, Los Angeles, meets every Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at 1900 Broadway.  
Branch No. 5, Los Angeles, meets every Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at 1900 Broadway.  
Branch No. 6, Los Angeles, meets every Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at 1900 Broadway.

## COLORADO

Branch No. 3, Golden, meets every Sunday at 7:30 p. m., at City Hall, Chas. LaKamp, secretary.

## CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut State Committee meets the last Sunday of each month at 2 p. m., at P. Schaffer's, 1059 Main street, Hartford.  
Branch No. 1, Hartford, meets first and third Thursdays at 8 p. m., at P. Schaffer's, 1059 Main street.  
Branch No. 2, Hartford, meets first and third Thursdays at 8 p. m., at P. Schaffer's, 1059 Main street.

## ILLINOIS

Meetings of Chicago Central Committee held regularly second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at Dr. J. H. Greer's office, 32 Dearborn street.  
Branch No. 2 (Bohemian), Chicago, meets first and third Saturdays at 8 p. m., at Nagel's Hall, 333 Blue Island avenue.  
Branch No. 3 (Bohemian), Chicago, meets second and fourth Mondays at 8 p. m., in Dunder's place, 100 W. 18th place, Joseph Dunder, secretary.

Branch No. 4, Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays at 8 p. m., at P. Schaffer's, 1059 Main street.  
Branch No. 5, Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays at 8 p. m., at P. Schaffer's, 1059 Main street.  
Branch No. 6, Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays at 8 p. m., at P. Schaffer's, 1059 Main street.

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## The Devilishness of Conditions

The heathen Chinese, whatever may be said of their paganism, have the Christian idea of the devil in human affairs well developed. They see the devil in everything about them, and are constantly devising ways and means for defeating his machinations, and their history records the fact that they have been engaged in the business four or five thousand years. It is conceded, however, that the devil is too many for the Chinese, as he is for other nations, tribes and tongues scattered over the face of the earth. This is evidently owing to the amazing versatility of his genius for business, which includes his microbian faculty of getting into things, animate and inanimate, and once in, he is liable to remain until he has accomplished his malign purpose. That the devil gets into men and women, often ruinously, there is no doubt, the testimony of the Bible, especially the New Testament, is conclusive and irrefutable on the subject.

The devil not only gets into persons, but also into institutions of every conceivable character, and always, or generally, on the ground floor, and usually holds a majority of the stock, which he at once proceeds to water up to the highest point of public endurance, and thus inaugurate a system of robbery that defies exaggeration.

The devil likes to get into enterprises that appear beautiful on the outside such as great educational institutions, when the curriculum includes everything except the precepts laid down by Jesus Christ, and where, if a professor breaks away from his tether and indicates a purpose to advocate the principals of Socialism, the devil immediately warns him that his bread and butter depends upon his silence or recantation.

Strange to say, the devil has a penchant for the church, and never fails of getting in somehow. He likes the everlasting wrangles over creeds and dogmas and rituals, and heresies. He is tickled to the end of his forked tail when he sees Christians building towering edifices and adorning them like palaces of kings, paying immense salaries to persons for preaching and selling the pews to the rich to pay expenses, preserving the building exclusively for the votaries of fashion, thus shutting out the poor, and then wailing like dervish and sobbing like a water plug because they can't get close to the "common people."

The devil being a liar, and the "father of liars," is immensely fond of Pharisees and hypocrites, and all forms of duplicity and cunning, and his kingdom is never more prosperous than when lying and cheating, fraud, embezzlements and every other form of crime is increasing. He likes to see poverty and progress hand in hand, wrecking homes and scattering families, as a cyclone uproots everything that opposes its sway.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the devil likes capitalism. Indeed, he is

the originator of the soulless, heartless thing now in command of affairs in the United States. He listens with ecstatic delight when he hears it call the roll of its wage slaves in the very places which history has made second to liberty by deeds of valor performed in liberty's cause. The devil is up to his chin in love with our Christian civilization, which raises and equips immense standing armies with guns of all sorts and sizes, long range and rapid firing, and grins like a hyena, roars like a lion and goes into all sorts of hellish contortions as he reflects how effectually Christian civilization is carrying out Christ's program of "peace on earth, good will toward men."

As a matter of course the devil likes war, because "war is hell"—anything that looks like hell, smells like hell, consumes like hell, affrights like hell, is agreeable to the devil, as it is a sort of a compliment to him, the reigning monarch of that particular kingdom or locality set apart for the "devil and his angels" and such recruits as capitalism enlists.

What of it all? That the devil is in human affairs is vouched for by Holy Writ, and all experience verifies the declaration can he be expelled? is the serious question. The aphorism reads: "Fight the devil with fire"—that is, with his own weapons. In such a contest the devil would be invincible. What then? This: Fight the devil with Truth for a weapon. This Socialism is doing. The subject in hand is immensely important, relating as it does to deplorable conditions which warrant the use of the term "devilish," there being no other in the language that so fully expresses the state of human affairs, and is recognized by lexicographers as a synonym of "infernal," "atrocious," "wicked," "detestable" and "destructive." To relieve human affairs of devilish influences is no easy task. The opponents of Socialism may be aptly likened to Goliath of Gath, a monster eleven feet and six inches in stature, whose spear was like a "weaver's beam," the head of which weighs 20 pounds, and whose coat of mail weighed 156 pounds. His size and his armor made him boastful and impudent and defiant, and he did frighten a great many weak-kneed, spineless Israelites, who took to their heels when Goliath made his appearance.

On the other hand, Socialism may be likened to David, the son of Jesse, who knew no such thing as fear, and withal was the exponent of the truth. He dared the giant to a contest, and with the simple weapon of a sling and stone overcame him, killed him, cut off his head and gave his carcass to wild beasts and vultures. The enemies of Socialism may see in the fate of Goliath their ultimate doom.

Millerand has introduced the eight-hour day for all workmen employed by the French postoffice.



## NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Der Zeitgeist is the name of a new Socialist publication to be issued monthly at New York, beginning this month. Comrade Frederic Heath is conducting a department on Social Democracy in the Milwaukee Journal which is both newsy and instructive.

There was a large meeting last Sunday afternoon at Kedzie and Twenty-second street, Chicago, addressed by Comrades Tyl, Hlavacek and Miller.

Rev. C. H. Vail of New Jersey will speak at Reichwein's hall, Indianapolis, Tuesday evening, March 26. All comrades are expected to help make this a successful meeting.

The state committee of New Hampshire (one of the independent states) has endorsed the call of the Chicago convention for a national convention of all Socialist parties in September.

Comrade Charles Tyl, Social Democratic candidate for treasurer in Chicago, has received the endorsement of the Bohemian-Slavonic Benevolent association. This is one of the largest Bohemian societies in Chicago.

The branch at Muncie, Ind., is having well-attended and interesting meetings. New members are joining, the "full dinner pail" cry has petered out, and working people are weary of the union that will not "go into politics."

At Kiel, Wis., Social Democratic candidates have been nominated as follows: County judge, Arnold Zander; municipal judge, Charles Allinger. Comrade Fred Althen is chairman of the county committee, and Ernest Thiede secretary.

The fourth in a series of lectures at Hartford, Conn., will be delivered Sunday, March 24, at Good Templars Hall, 881 Main street, by Comrade Geo. A. Gowdy of Bristol, Conn. The subject will be "The Russian Village Commune."

Social Democrats of Indianapolis will hold a convention April 6 at Reichwein's hall to nominate a ticket for the election of city and ward officers, to be held in September. All Socialists are invited to be present and participate, as it will be a mass convention.

The comrades at Pana, Ill., have nominated the following: Mayor, James True; clerk, J. A. Bruell; treasurer, Joseph Wullner; alderman (second ward), John Muir; alderman (fourth ward), John Poppinghous; alderman (fifth ward), August Metzger.

## Watch the Ballot

### VOTE FOR SOCIALISM

When the voters of Chicago step into the voting place to make up their ballots for the city election, they will find on the ballot the candidates of the Social Democratic Party, headed by Gus Hoyt, the Social Democratic nominee for mayor. Voters who desire to use their right of franchise in favor of municipal ownership will vote the Social Democratic ticket. Every man on it is a Socialist and desires to give Socialism a start in Chicago. Vote for the Social Democratic party and Socialism while we live.

The Bohemian comrades of Chicago celebrated the commune Saturday evening, March 6, at National hall. The largest crowd in the history of the organization was in attendance and every one enjoyed the occasion immensely. The Bohemian branches cleared \$100 as a result of their enterprise.

Comrade W. J. McSweeney, national organizer, left Chicago last Saturday on an organizing trip through Indiana, where it is hoped he will be as successful as he has been in the state of Illinois. Wherever there is good material for a branch Mac is certain to find it. We bespeak for him a Socialist greeting everywhere.

Branch 2, Milwaukee, adopted the following resolutions: "Resolved, That by unanimous vote we express disapproval and condemnation of the action of the national executive board in not submitting to a vote by the party the names of the nominees for members of the new executive board; we also disapprove of the action of the last Chicago convention in the election of officers."

Carter Harrison of Chicago said a few days ago: "Municipal ownership of public utilities may be a Socialist idea, but let me tell you, my friends, that when we had four Socialists in the council we got more good measures from them than from any other four members of that body. They were propositions like the tenement-house question and the correction of the sweatshop nuisance."

A big mass meeting of the Social Democratic party will be held next Sunday afternoon at National hall, Center avenue and Eighteenth street, by the Bohemian branches of the party. Comrades throughout the city are urged to attend. The speakers will be Comrades Charles Tyl, candidate for city treasurer; Frank Nerad, candidate for alderman for tenth ward; F. J. Hlavacek and Seymour Stedman.

## The Referendum

The following is the vote of the branches on the four main propositions submitted by the January convention:

1. Shall the national platform as revised be approved and adopted? Yes, 1,520; no, 57.  
2. Shall the call for a joint national convention of all organized Socialist parties be approved and adopted? Yes, 1,629; no, 16.

3. Shall the recommendations of the finance committee be approved and adopted? Yes, 1,340; no, 223.

4. Shall the action of the convention in the selection of officers be ratified? Yes, 1,531; no, 62.

The following is the negative vote in detail on the various propositions named:

Proposition No. 1—Branch 7 Indiana, 30; 15 Kansas, 1; 1 New York, 2; 2 Wisconsin, 12; 29 Wisconsin, 12. Total, 57.

Proposition No. 2—Branch 6 Connecticut, 1; 20 Illinois, 3; 2 Massachusetts, 1; 2 Montana, 3; 1 New York, 2; 5 New York, 1; 4 Wisconsin, 4; 9 Wisconsin, 1. Total, 16.

Proposition No. 3—Branch 4 Connecticut, 5; 35 Illinois, 6; 37 Illinois, 57; 51 Illinois, 9; 57 Illinois, 38; 14 Indiana, 2; 15 Kansas, 2; 2 Massachusetts, 14; 41 Massachusetts, 23; 23 Missouri, 6; 9 New Jersey, 15; 1 New York, 2; 4 Ohio, 2; 2 Wisconsin, 12; 9 Wisconsin, 9; 16 Wisconsin, 15; 29 Wisconsin, 14; 34 Wisconsin, 13. Total, 223.

Proposition No. 4—Branch 14 Indiana, 2; 2 Massachusetts, 2; 41 Massachusetts, 6; 1 New Jersey, 15; 2 New York, 2; 2 Wisconsin, 12; 9 Wisconsin, 8; 23 Wisconsin, 1; 29 Wisconsin, 14. Total, 62.

The vote on the constitution will be reported in next week's Herald.

## Forty-three of Milwaukee

Branch 3 of Milwaukee is very much alive. We are having some very interesting and instructive meetings this winter. On Feb. 25th Comrade Howard Tuttle spoke to us on the topic "Reform." Hot shot for the plutes it was, too. Comrade Tuttle has a very pleasing way of making things plain; no chance to mistake his meaning. We would like to have him with us at every meeting. On March 11th Alderman Henry Smith, of the Sixth ward, told us how our city government was run, giving the duties and salaries of all officers, appointive powers of the mayor and others. Questions and discussion followed, making a very profitable evening of educational work, for which we thank Mr. Smith.

March 25th Comrade Louis Weimann lectures on "Trade Unions and Politics."

April 8th Rev. Thomas E. Barr, of the People's pulpit, will speak, taking for his theme, "Religion and Present Industrial Problems." We cordially invite all comrades and friends to attend these meetings of Branch 43, corner Mineral street and Fourth avenue.

W. E. A., Secretary.

## Debs to Speak

In response to an invitation of the city campaign committee of the Social Democratic party, Comrade Eugene V. Debs has consented to speak in Chicago in support of the Social Democratic city ticket, headed by Comrade Gus Hoyt. Time and place will be announced by the committee when arrangements are completed.

## A Socialist Priest's Book

"Socialism and the Labor Problem: A Plea for Social Democracy," by Father T. McGrady of Kentucky. The boldest arraignment of capitalism ever penned. Send 10 cents for a copy to the address below. Unexcelled for propaganda. 100 copies sent postpaid for \$3.50. Address Debs Publishing Company, Terre Haute, Ind.

## Aldermanic Nominations

List of candidates nominated by the Social Democratic Party for aldermen in Chicago.

Seventh ward—Charles Bigel.  
Ninth—Joseph Novata.  
Tenth—Frank Nerad.  
Twelfth—Geo. J. Miller.  
Fourteenth—H. H. Fraelich.  
Fifteenth—Arthur Meister.  
Sixteenth—M. Sinak.  
Seventeenth—N. Berison.  
Twenty-seventh—J. G. K. Schultz.  
Twenty-eighth—Franz Rabel.  
Twenty-ninth—M. Babka.  
Thirtieth—John Morro.  
Thirty-first—Chas. Wistrand.  
Thirty-second—Henry Uhlhorn.  
Thirty-fourth—Henry Larson.

The supreme court of the German empire has sustained the decision of a lower court, wherein a judgment for \$486 was rendered in favor of an employer against striking moulders, who declined to work upon scab models. The court said: "The defendants acted in premeditated concert, intending to compel their employer by their united strength to do that which they could not have done singly. Every one of them was conscious that the plaintiff would be injured by his action. It is true there was no joint labor contract; the separate contracts of the defendants are independent of each other; but the violation of these contracts is the means of accomplishing a malicious purpose common to all. They are held jointly and separately for the entire damage."



## AROUND THE WORLD

The Socialists have been successful in returning many of their candidates to the Boards of Conciliation at Vienna.

The Socialists in Berlin are carrying on a vigorous agitation against the measures promoted by the Agrarian Party to increase the taxes on corn.

The New Zealand government is raising the wages of all artisans and workmen employed on the railways of the colony, at an extra annual expenditure of £20,000.

The election of a municipal councillor at Puteaux, near Paris, has resulted in a victory for the Socialist Jacquot, elected with 1,457 votes against Moulin (nationalist) 942 votes.

"Afrikander" writes to Sydney Daily Telegraph warning men against going to South Africa for work. In Natal alone, he says, there are 20,000 refugees, men strong and stalwart, idle.

The Socialists at Recklinghausen have, since the first of January, published a monthly newspaper, and its success has been so satisfactory that in May next it is intended to publish it twice a month.

At the last elections for the Wurtemberg local parliament the Socialist candidates obtained 58,721 votes. At Stuttgart they polled 49 per cent of the total number of votes given, and at Ludwigsburg 43 per cent.

The increase of farms operated by tenants in the western states, according to a report of the chief statistician of the division of agriculture, United States census bureau, was from 13 in 1890 to 20 per cent in 1900.

The Norske Arbeidersamfund, or the central organization of the Norwegian trade unions, has severed its connection with the radical party, with whom they formerly acted. It is generally thought that they will now act with the Social Democrats.

The two existing zinc and chemical trusts were consolidated with a capital of \$64,000,000 recently in Philadelphia. The leading institutions in the deal are the General Chemical Company, known as the Chemical Trust, and the New Jersey Zinc Company, known as the Zinc Trust.

The office of the Avanti, the Socialist daily in Rome, has been broken into, and the safe rifled of 5,000 francs (£200). This is particularly hard, because recently the paper was heavily fined. One of the writers said: "Everything is against us, but we are not going to give in just yet."

The New Zealand government has now more than 2,000 miles, the total cost of which has been a little more than 16,000,000 pounds, or in the neighborhood of \$80,000,000. Nearly all the roads are making money. The cash revenue for 1899 amounted to more than \$7,000,000, while the expenditure was less than \$5,000,000. The earnings of some of the lines ranged from 5 to 13 per cent.

It is proposed by the Canadian government to devote the surplus revenue of the Dominion—now averaging over \$6,000,000 annually—to the purchase of the telegraph systems in the provinces. The gross outlay would be from \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000 (including the telephone system which is also to be absorbed), and it is anticipated that public sentiment throughout the Dominion will cheerfully indorse the plan.

A society has just been formed in Paris to promote the establishment in all the large French towns of combination milling and baking houses, worked by machinery known as the "Schweitzer system." This has for its object the making of 100 kilograms (220 pounds) of nutritious and digestible white bread from 100 kilograms of grain at the lowest cost of production. The United States consul at Roubaix, as quoted in Popular Magazine, says that the model establishment, which is at La Villette, Paris, opened its doors to the public on June 15, 1899.

While little is heard from the "bull pen" region of Idaho, a condition of affairs still exists out there that is a disgrace to the country. The blacklist is in full operation with the connivance of a democratic governor. One mining firm, the Hunter Mining Co., made an effort to employ their own men without recourse to the blacklisting office, but the trust absolutely refused to handle their ore till they discharged all union men and patronized the employment office, and though the company held out two or three weeks, they were finally compelled to surrender.

The next conference of the Belgium Workers' Party, consisting of Social-Democratic, co-operative, and trade union organizations, is to be held on April 7 and 8 at Liege. On the agenda are already the following questions: Proposal of a national manifestation for universal suffrage; general strike; the rights and duties of the employees of co-operations; founding of an international school of Socialism; duties of the different organizations towards each other; the application of the law on

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For City Treasurer—CHARLES TYL  
For City Attorney—CHAS. H. SOELKE

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During the month of March Socialists throughout the world celebrate an event of great historical interest, the Paris Commune. We desire to call special attention in this connection to three important books with which Socialists should be familiar, and to make a SPECIAL OFFER on these books for the month of March only.

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Dr. George M. Randall, a chemist of Lowell, Mass., has discovered a method of producing an artificial fuel resembling bituminous coal at a cost much less than the price of coal in the states where it is mined. The new substance is composed of mineral products now abundantly distributed throughout the earth. The manufacture of this "synthetical" coal has already passed the experimental stage and is produced in commercial quantities. It has been tested in the engines of a New England city fire department, and also in smelting iron ore in large quantities. It was demonstrated to produce from 17 to 21 per cent more heat units, pound for pound, than bituminous coal.

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